# THE SENATORIAL CRISIS.

THOMAS C. PLATT LEADING. NOMINATION CONVIDENTLY EXPECTED AT ATBANY-THE HON. CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW

LIEFLY TO WITHDRAW FROM THE FIELD-STRONG TALK AT THE SENATORIAL CONFERENCE-VAIN REPORTS AT A COALITION-UNCERTAINTY AT It is generally expected at Albany that the

Republican caucus to be held to-night will nominate the Hon. Thomas C. Platt for United States Senator. Mr. Depew will probably withdraw. Mr. Crowley's friends tried to form a coalition with his supporters, but they have failed so far. The mode of calling the caucus was strongly condemned at a conference of the Republican Senators. Nothing decisive is reported from the Pennsylvania contest.

THE CANVASS AT ITS CLIMAX. A DAY OF RUMORS, INTRIGUES AND EXCITEMENT-MR. PLATT'S SUPPORTERS JUBILANT-THE CON-TEST REDUCED PRACTICALLY TO THEER CANDI-DATES-ALL OBSTACLES TO HOLDING THE CAU-CUS TO NIGHT APPARENTLY REMOVED.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. ALBANY, Jan. 12.—It seems entirely safe to pre-dict that Thomas C. Platt will succeed Francis Kernan in the United States Senate. All the candidates arastill in the field, and the night has been one of much flurry and many rumors, with nuconferences in progress, and a whole network of negotiations crossing each other. But a knowledge of the underlying influences of the contest leaves no room for any conclusion but that Mr. Platt will be nominated to-morrow night. Much been said already of the elements of Piatt's strength; his close relations chairman of the Executive Committee of the Republican State Committee with the local leaders throughout the State, the aid received from Governor Cornell and the State Administration generally, his accessions from certain portions of the anti-machine element notably represented by Conmau Warner Miller, and the preference shown for him as against any other machine candidate by the anti-machine men generally. All these influences have worked in his favor until they seem tonight to have given him a sure majority of the Republican caucus, whatever may be done in the negotations and dickerings of to-night and to-

It is a noticeable fact that Mr. Platt has made many friends among his former opponents during his canvass. He has made a quiet, self-respecting campaign, arousing no antipathies and making no mistakes; and the coolness with which he has always been able to estimate his own prospects and the thoroughness with which he has done his work have considerably raised the general estimate of his powers as a politician. The kindly feeling toward him among the anti-machine men is founded upon the conviction that he is not only better qualified for the post than either Mr. Crowley or but that he would have a greater individuality as a Senator. In fact, Mr. Piatt's supporters feel so confident of his nomination that their efforts have been directed during the day, it is said, to securing a majority without any help from the friends of Congressman Crowley, so that they shall incur no obligations from the latter. Fifty-four votes are needed to nominate. A canyasa made yesterday by a close friend of Mr. Platt showed for him, it is said, thirty-five tronclad votes in the Assembly alone. It is known that considerable accessions have been made to this to-day. Congressman Warren Miller has been active in that wing of the anti-machine Republicans with which he is connected, and his efforts have not been without effect. It is an open secret that Mr. Skinner, the anti-machine candidate for Speaker against General Sharpe, will vote for Mr. Platt, and others of that wing of the party will undoubtedly take the

It is evident that the friends of Chauncey Depew no longer have any hope of nominating him, and it is said that his name may be withdrawn in the morning. If admiration for brilliant talents and personal popularity meant votes, Mr. Depew could have a unanimous nomination for Senator from aimost any New-York Legislature; but his friends here have had to commund against overwhelming odds in the extent and completeness of the machine organization, and it has been plain for several days that they no longer hoped to win. A NEW COALITION PROPOSED.

The question has now arisen where his shall go, and whether there shall be a fusion among the minority on some new a new and decidedly unexpected element has entered in. It had been supposed that the line between machine and antimachine would remain tightly drawn throughout with the exception of some anti-machine votes possibly going, after a break, to Mr. Platt. It was not expected that any formal combination would be attempted between disappointed machine men and the opponents of the machine. This has been attempted. The supporters of Congressman Crowley made overtures to-night to Mr. Depew's friends, with a view to getting their whole vote for Mr. Crowley. The Depew men were in conference at Senator Waguer's rooms in the Dela-House to-night for several hours, and are still in caucus at midnight. At that hour no decision had been reached, but it was manifest before their conference began that the votes could not be transferred to Mr. Crowley. A Crowley, and, if there is a straight contest between the two men, will undoubtedly vote for the former. There is an additional obstacle in the person of John F. Smyth, who has been Mr. Crowley's chief manager, and is bitterly disliked by the anti-machine

A CROP OF RUMORS. All sorts of rumors are in circulation at a late bour as to the combinations that may be made during the night and to-morrow. It is said that the cause of the hesitation of the minority as to their course is their desire to throw their strength against the candidate whom Mr. Conkling prefers, and their inability to decide just who that candidate is. There seems to be no doubt that it is the present intention of Mr. Crowley's friends to put his name before the caucus. They may change their minds, but it is not the present expectation of Mr. Platt's friends that he is to have a unanimous nomination. One prominent Crowley man remarked to-night that there would be three names presented to the caucus, those of Mesars. Platt, Crowley and Rogers. There is a story that the Crowley men, simply in the forlorn hope of beating Platt, will offer their votes to Sherman S. Rogers and try to start a diversion with him. A more grotesque combination could scarcely be imagined, under the circumstances, for Mr. Crowley's vote, which is not believed to be above eighteen now, cannot be transferred in a body; some of it would inevitably go to Mr. Platt. Indeed, it may safely be said that no fusion of the minority can be made from which some votes

At 1 a. m. his supporters are jubilant in anticipa tion of their victory. They are claiming 65 out of 106 votes. There are indeed good reasons to be-lieve, as was suggested last night, that the Platt men have pursued the policy from the first of underestimating their vote in order not to provoke s general combination against their candidate as the common foe of all others. A prominent State pefficial said to-night, "with elation shining all over his face," and looking at Police Commissioner Prench and his former colleague, De Witt C. Wheeler, who had some up with a crowd of New-York poli-licians to help General Arthur in a losing fight: Net all the policemen in New-York can beat Mr. bettled now that no decision will be onight respecting a union of Mr. Platt's.

There have been a score of negotiations

and propositions, but without result, and a good many of the negotiators and proposers are going to bed. All the candidates are still in the field, and what changes are to be must come to-morrow.

The question of announcing the committees has been submerged to-night. Many anti-machine mendo not believe that they will be announced in the morning. Speaker Sharpe said to-day when questioned on the subject: "I fully intend to announce the committees to-morrow, but I have been so overrun with members and other people that I have not had time to do my work. If I cannot complete it of course I cannot announce the list, and I have the right to hold it back, but I now intend to announce tif it is in my power."

Not really was received by the Seneta Canons Com-

No reply was received by the Senate Caucus Com-mittee to-night to their letter to General Sharpe. It is thought that the whole controversy will end in the participation of all the Republican members of both houses in the caucus to-morrow night.

Later .- A canvass just made by Mr. Platt's friends shows 76 votes for him on the first roll call. Each member of the caucus is to announce openly his vote.

THE SENATORS AROUSED.

A SECRET MEETING HELD-STRONG EXPRESSIONS OF OPINION-THE MACHINE SUPPORTERS IN A MI-NOR: IY-THE COURSE OF THE SENATE COMMIT-TEE APPROVED.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. ALBANY, Jan. 12 .- The indignation among Republican members of the Senate at what is called the snap caucus call of last night found expression early to-day. Before the Senate met, the Senate Caucus Committee, now completed by the arrival of Senator McCarthy, met and adopted the following communication, which was forwarded to Speaker Sharpe, the chairman of the Assembly Cancus Committee :

the chairman of the Assembly Caucus Committee:

DEAR SIR: At a meeting of the Senate Caucus Committee held to-day, it was resolved that George H. Sharpe, chairman of the Assembly Caucus Committee, be notified that this committee has always been ready to act concurrently with the Assembly Committee, and has never refused or intended to refuse or delay such netton, and that immediately on the abnouncement of the Assembly committees this Committee will meet the Assembly Caucus Committee for the purpose of calling a j-fint caucus to nominate a Republican candidate for United States Senistor at the earliest possible moment. Yours respectfully,

DENNIS MCCARRIY,

WM. W. ROCKWELL,

GEORGE H. FORSTER.

At the close of the session of the Senate, a conference, with closed doors, of the Republican members was immediately held. Judge Robertson, the leader of the anti-Machine Senators, was called to the chair, and Senator Astor was made secretary. Senator Madden offered a resolution requesting the Senate Cancus Committee to notify to the Assembly Cancus Committee its readiness to meet that Committee at any time when convenient for the purpose of designating the time for the meeting of a joint cancus to nominate a United States Senator.

Senator Forster offered an amendment approving the action of the Senate Caucus Committee, and expressing the willingness of the Republican Senators to attend such joint caucus as may be called by the concurrent action of the two caucus committees and no other. Upon these two, propositions a long debate ensued, lasting two hours, in which much feeling was shown.

Senator Madden, who spoke first, was strongly on the side of the Senate Caucus Committee, but he criticised the letter sent by them this morning to the Assembly Caucus Committee as discourteous in its allusion to the appointment of the Assembly Committee. He said the caucus called on the part of the Assembly was irregular. He would not attend it, and he would not be bound by it. Diverging from this subject to the Senatorial contest he said that no one of the candidates named came up to his notion of a Senator. He took little or no interest in any of them. Senator Madden showed considerable excitement during the speech. This was the burden of it—with variations.

### PRECEDENTS CITED.

Senator McCarthy, who followed, went into a long explanation of the history of General Sharpe's letter to him and his reply, which is well-known. He characterized the action of last night as extraordinary and without precedent, and alluded to the fact that Senatorial caucuses had hitherto been called in almost all cases for the evening preceding the election. He defended the letter of the Senate Caucus Committee.

Senator Woodin justified the Senate Caugus Committee in all that they had done; they had done nothing which was a fair subject of criticism. He would not attend a caucus called in the manner adopted by the Assembly Caucus Committee; it was revolutionary; he would not vote for the Angel Gabriel for Senator if he had been nominated by

Senator Rockwell gave a description of the scene in the Speaker's Room when he went there expecting to meet the Assembly Caucus Committee and found the room crowded with Assemblymen and many persons who were not Assemblymen signing the call for a cancus-the whole demonstration seeming to be in charge of persons who were not members of the Legislature. Senator Rockwell's remarks covered much the same ground with his talk reported in to-day's TRIBUNE.

HOW SIGNATURES WERE SECURED. Senator Forster spoke twice, the first time at length giving a history of his connection with the caucus controversy, and including also his experience in the Speaker's Room last night. He made an interesting disclosure respecting the influences used to secure signatures to the call. He said he had asked one of the signers why he had signed it, and he replied that he had been told that if he did not do so he would not get the place on the committees which he desired. This was the statement, Senator Forster said, of a man whose character for veracity was as good as that of any member of the Senate. He denounced such manipulations of the committees discussed, and, as many of the Senators did. General Sharpe's action in holding back the committees, and also the fear that he intended to hold them until after the caucus.

Senator Woodin spoke of Truman G. Younglove the only Speaker in the history of the State who has dared to hold back the committees at a Senatorial election in order to influence it-as a "political corpse," and said that if General Sharpe followed his example he would share his fate. The only prominent apologists for the Assembly were Senators Straban and Mills. Mr. Straban defended the caucus call on the ground that neither the Republicans of the Assembly nor the Senate constituted a Senate or a House. They were unorgan-ized irresponsible bodies, and a majority of the Republicun members had power to call a caucus irespective of committees.

A PLEA FOR THE ASSEMBLY CALL. Mr. Strahau dwelt especially upon the idea that the majority were a law unto themselves. When a Senator asked him whether, if he had been nominated for Senator by a convention of twenty-five delegates and thirteen of them should afterward meet and request him to withdraw he should deem it his duty to do so, he escaped from the dilemma by saying that he thought it was not a parallel case. There was a great deal of conversational debate during the two hours of the caucus, with some sharp repartees. Finally Mr. Woodin moved to lay the whole subject on the table, saying that he thought this course would show that the Senate approved the action of the Caucus Committee, and was willing to leave the matter to their further dis-

Senator Forster, however, being one of the five. Later in the day, when the majority came to think it over, some of them unquestionably felt that a mistake had been made. They would have been left in a stronger position if the Republican Senators, as a body, had resented the action of the Assembly Caucus Committee. As it was, they had virtually declined to express an opinion upon it. some ascribed the movement to timidity on Senator Woodin's part; while others. Who remember the Senator's bearing at the Utica Convention last winter, when he first opposed the machine, and then, conceding what the machine wanted, helped them more than one of their own men could have done, were not slow to suspect that he has not in

cretion. This was carried by a vote of fourteen to

five, most of the fourteen being anti-machine men,

reality with the side in this matter to which TELEGRAPH CONSOLIDATION. he professed to belong.

THE PENNSYLVANIA PROBLEM. EXCITEMENT INCREASING AT HARRISBURG - CON-FLICTING CLAIMS BY THE PARTISANS OF GROW AND OLIVER-SNOWDEN'S HOPE-LARGE NUMBER

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. HARRISBURG, Penn., Jan. 12 .- The Senatorial excitement continues at fever heat. Mr. Grow's friends have not been so hopeful of his success at any stage of the fight as they are this evening. They say that he will start out the strongest candidate in torotes on the first ballot. Colonel Quay, who is making a gallant fight for Oliver, says his candidate will start with seventy votes. Seventy-seven is the number necessary to a choice. The candidacy of Colonel Snowden makes the vote of Philadelphia the uncertain quantity in the contest. He will go into caucus with a strong following and a large number will go to Snowden.

In accordance with the rule governing such matters the names of the various candidates for the senatorship were mentioned in the House and Senate to-day. Forty-four names were presented to the House and about twenty to the Senate. An effort will be made by the Oliver managers to bring the

will be made by the Oliver managers to bring the Philadelphia members into line for their candidate to-morrow, and until then all estimates of Oliver's strength are mere gnesswork.

The city is crowded with politicians from all parts of the State to-night and the action of the caucus is awaited with much anxiety. The friends of Governor Hoyt have concluded not to press his name for the nomination. Friends of Oliver claim that he will be nominated on the second ballot, but the supporters of Grow laugh at the assertion, and to the impartial observer the contest is as great a mystery as ever.

### ELECTED OR NOMINATED.

FAIR ELECTED IN NEVADA. CARSON CITY, Nev., Jan. 12.-The Senate and Assembly, in joint convention to-day, elected James G. Fair United States Senator.

James G. Fair, one of the original quartette of "Bonanza Princes," was born December 3, 1834. in Cloughor, Tyrene County, Ireland. He came to this country in 1843 with his parents, and for some time he resided at Geneva, Ill., where he attended school. At Chleago he received a good business education. In 1849 he went to California, and he has ever since been engaged in mining. In 1867 he became superintendent of Ophir mine and the Hale and Norcross It was during mine connection with the latter mine that the Benanza Princes" made the first \$500,000 of their enormous fortunes. These men-James G. Fair, James C. Flood, William S. O'Brien and J. W. Mackey-secured control of several mining claims, which are now known as the California and Consolidated Virginia mines, Mr. as the California and Consolidated Virginia mines, Mr. Fair being the controlling spirit in the movement. From these and other mines and from real estate speculations Mr. Fair has accumulated an immense fortune, being assessed in California alone for \$42.000.000. Although the owner of so much wealth, Mr. Fair is still a hard worker, and may be seen about the mines almost any day in his miner's costume. In politics he is a conservative and independent Democrat. He is five feet and eight inches in height, and weighs 227 pounds. He wears a long, flowing black beard, tinged here and there with gray, and has a family of two boys at two girls.

THE SENATOR FROM CALIFORNIA. San Francisco, Jan. 12-The Senate and Assem

bly met in joint convention to-day, and General John F. Miller was declared duly elected United General John F. Miller is a native of Indiana,

and is by profession a lawyer. He studied law in New-York and at his old home in South Bend, Ind., where he had an office for a short time. In 1853 he went to California, and opened a law offlor at Napa. In 1856 he was recalled to Indiana by illness in his family, and was compelled to remain there some time. While in Indiana he canvassed the State for Frement, and in 1860 he took the field for Lincoln. During the Lincoln campaign he did exfor Lincoln. During the Estate and Canada and Canada eclient service for the Republican party, and when Governor Morton called the Legislature together after the attack on Fort Sumter, General Miller (who was then serving in the State Senate) was appointed as an Senatorship, General Miller organized the 29th Indiana Regiment, and early in October, 1861, joined Rousscau's forces in Kentucky. In the following February he took command of a brigade under General Buell, who was then at Bowling Green, Ky. His war record is withthe qualities of a thorough soldier. During the war he lost one of his eyes. In September, 1865, he resigned from the army and returned with his family to California, intending to practice law. Soon after, however. President Johnson appointed him Collector at San Francisco. When his term expired in 1870, he declined a reappointment. Since leaving public life General Miller has been engazed in commercial pursuits, in which he has accumulated a fortune. General Miller has made a study of the Chinese question, and some time ago he gave his views to the public through the columns of The Californian. He is opposed to unrestricted Chinese immigration. Justice Field, of the Supreme Court, wrote a letter to General Miller when Up magazine article appeared, gracefully acknowledging the great merit of the article and declaring the logic to be irresistible. General Miller is one of the lessees of the Aluska seal flaheries. When Senator Farley (Dem.) was elected, he received the complimentary vote of the Republican inmortly in the Joint Convention.

# SENATOR BAYARD TO BE RETURNED.

DOVER, Del., Jan. 12.-The Democratic members n caucus to-night decided unanimously to reelect the Hon, T. F. Bayard to the United States Senator-

MR. THURMAN COMPLIMENTED. COLUMBUS, Jan. 12 .- The Democratic caucus

o-night paid Mr. Thurman the compliment of nominat-ng him for Senator. SENATOR JONES RENOMINATED. WASHINGTON, Jan. 12 .- Senator Charles W. Jones,

### of Florida, has been unanimously renominated. SERIOUS ACCIDENT IN ILLINOIS.

St. Louis, Jan. 12 .- As the Wabash express train, which left Chicago last night, was pulling out from a side track at Mitchell, Ills., about twelve niles north of this city, between 7 and 8 o'clock this norning, the rear passenger coach was derailed and duched, and some dozen or more passengers were more or less seriously hurt, though none dangerously. F. W. Smith, of Pittsburg, was badly hurt about the head. Isaac R. Trask, his wife and a lady friend, of St. Louis, Isaac R. Trake, his wife and a fady friend, of St. Louis, were badly bruised. Mrs. Wagner, of St. Louis, had an arm broken, and her husband was badly hurt on the head. Harry Martin and wife and Mr. Ryan, of Chicago, were bruised about the head and body. William J. Fryer, of Chicago, had his ring broken, and his brother. J. E. Fryer, of Villisca, Iowa, was hurt in the broast. S. H. Stout, of Noblesville, Ind., had his nose broken and was otherwise hurt. Miss Etta Leavenworth, of St. Charles, Mo., had her ear torn off.

# PLAISTED GOVERNOR OF MAINE.

Augusta, Me., Jan. 12 .- The House met at 2:30 o'slock, and without debate accepted the report of the majority of the Committee on Gubernatorial Votes. which declares Plaisted elected Governor. There were even opposing votes. The President and the Speake the Gubernatorial votes were submitted, the minority claiming that the question was in grave doubt. After a long discussion the majority report was adopted, and the Senate adjourned. sult. In the Senate majority and minority reports of

# THE VOTE OF TENNESSEE.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 12 .- Both branches of the Legislature met in joint convention in the Holise to-day and counted the vote for Governor, which stood as foliows: Hawkins, Republican, 103.964; Wright, State-Credit Democrat, 78,783; Wilson, Low Tax Democrat, 57,183; Edwards, Greenbacker, 3,459; total vote cast, 243,389. The Presidential vote stands; Hancoc 128,191; Garfield, 107,677; Weaver, 5,910; Dow, 43.

# THE WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

WHEELING, W. Va., Jan. 12 .- The State Legislature met at noon to-day and organized in both branches. The Senate chose Dr. Summers, of Kanawha County, for president, and the House E. Wills Wilson, of the same county, for speaker.

PROPOSED UNION OF THE COMPANIES. THE DETAILS OF THE SCHEME NOT YET ARRANGED -THE DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN UNION COM-PANY UNWILLING TO CONVERSE ON THE SUB-JECT-PRESIDENT GREEN NOT AUTHORIZED TO TALK-EFFECT OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT ON TELE-

A preliminary agreement for the consolidation of the rival telegraph companies has been signed, but the details have not been arranged. A meeting of the directors of the Western morrow night's caucus, and will have sixty-six Union Company will be held next Wednesday, when the plan may be perfected. Not one of the directors of the Western Union Company was willing to make known any of the terms of the proposed union, and President Green did not feel authorized to do so until the contract had been ratified by the companies. if the friends of Grow see that they cannot succeed | The announcement that a preliminary agreement had been made was followed by a further advance in telegraph stocks at the Stock Exchange. Grave doubts of the success of the scheme were expressed in Wall Street. The American Union Company is engaged in pushing forward its work.

### A PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT SIGNED.

The reported union of the telegraph companies was the principal topic of conversation in Wall Street yesterday. It was asserted positively on the floor of the Stock Exchange that the basis of concolidation has been fixed and that the agreement had been already signed by officers of the companies It was announced on the authority of President Green, of the Western Union Company, that the preliminary agreement for a consolidation of the companies had been signed. President Green was engaged with committees of the Western Union Companies, but inquiries were referred to W. B. Somerville, superintendent of the Press Bureau of the company, who had been authorized by him to make public whatever the officers of the company

Mr. Somerville replied to the inquiries of a TEIB UNE reporter about the proposed consolidation that he had been informed by President Green that the consolidation had been agreed on; that the details had not been arranged; but that the counsel of the company was engaged in perfecting them, and that a full meeting of the Board had been called for next Wednesday to ratify the compact. Mr. Somerville added that he had understood, in a general way, that the Western Union was to absorb the other companies by an issue of stock, but that Jay Gould would be allowed a representation in the Board of Directors of the consolidated company. But on these points definite information could not be given, because the terms of the consolidation had not been com pleted. On close inquiry Mr. Somerville said that he should be obliged to consult President Green; and from him be brought in a few minutes a message to the effect that the president did not feel authorized to give the basis of consol dation because it was subject to approval by the directors of the

Mr. Somerville was asked who represented the American Union Company in the legal conference which was supposed to be then in progress. He expressed his ignorance, but volunteered to ascertain. He soon returned a second time to his room, and said that Mr. Lowrey, the counsel of the Western Union, had gone away, and that the clerks in the office had replied to his inquiry that they did not think any one representing the American Union had been pres-

The following message was sent out yesterday by the New-York Associated Press: "It is announced, on authority, that the terms of consolidation between the Western Union and American Union Telegraph Companies have been agreed upon, and the preliminary papers signed."

At the offices of the American Union Company no definite information could be obtained. First Vice-President D. H. Bates was in Philadelphia in con sultation with the counsel of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, in regard to the hearing of the injunction obtained recently by the Western Union Company, which has been set down for January 17. General Eckert, president of the company, when seen out a blemish, and in all positions given him he showed at the company's office, was unwilling to enter on a on of the subject. Later in the evening he was sought at the Windsor Hotel, but the reply was made that General Eckert was not at home.

Inquiry at Mr. Vanderbilt's house was met with the intelligence that Mr. Vanderbilt was dining out, and Jay Gould's servant learned on inquiry that Mr. Gould, with his son, had just stepped out. At the Windsor Hotel, an intimate friend said that Mr. Gould was not feeling well and that he had refused

Samuel F. Barger, a director of the Western Union Company, was entertaining a dinner party, which included some friends who are connected with the company, and Wilson G. Hunt, another member of the Board, was not at home. O. H. Palmer, a director of the Western Union

Company, being questioned by a TRIBUNE reporter concerning the negotiations pending between the two companies, replied: "I understand the companies are to be consoli-

dated, but I do not know that anything has been dene yet beyond discussing the subject. The companies cannot be united unless their stockholders agree to it, and no meeting of stockholders has been held yet."

"Has any such meeting been called?" "Not yet, I b-lieve, although I understand that such a meeting will be called soon. I have no doubt the companies will be consolidated, but the matter

is not accomplished yet." 'You do not know upon what terms the consoli-

dation will be effected !" "I do not." " Have papers been drawn up and signed by representatives of the two companies preliminary to the consolidation ?

"I do not know. Indeed I know very little about the matter-no more than I have told you." "Well, have you heard anything about a propective increase of the capital stock of the Western

Union Company ?" "I have not. I do not think that any will be made. I certainly do not know anything about any

such proposition." The reporter called at the houses of Harrison Durkee and D. O. Mills, in Fifth-ave., but neither gentleman was at home. Ex-Governor E. D. Morgan was called upon, but asked to be excused from talking upon the subject. Cornelius Vanderbilt was not feeling well and felt unable to see the re-

E. D. Worcester, at the St. James Hotel, when asked concerning the terms of the consolidation, the probable meeting of stockholders and the rumored intention of increasing the capital stock of the Western Union Company, replied :

"I have only some very general information on those points, and could say nothing sufficiently definite to be of use to you. I have nothing to say concerning these matters." R. L. Kennedy was found at his home, No. 99

Fifth-ave. Regarding the consolidation he said : "I understand that the companies will be conolidated, but I cannot tell you upon what terms or when. The matter has been under consideration for some time, but nothing has yet been finally done. I am told there is to be a call for a meeting of the stockholders of the Western Union Company soon, but I do not know when. The call, I under stand, is being prepared now. I do not know of a proposed increase of the capital stock of the West-

E. S. Sanford, one of the Board of Directors of the Western Union Company, was found by a TRIB-UNE reporter last evening at his home in Brooklyn.

When asked for information concerning the reported consolidation, he said that he knew nothing except what he had read in the newspapers. Owing to indisposition he had not been out of his house for two days, and this, he said, explained why he knew so

little about the matter.

little about the matter.

H. McK. Twombly, one of the vice-presidents of the company, when called on last evening declined to say anything in reference to the rumored consolidation. The vice-presidents, he said, had made it a rule to allow the president of the company to speak for the company, and he had no doubt Dr. Green would give all information which it was desirable to impart.

Dr. Green, president of the company, was not home last evening when a TRIBUNE reporter called at his house, and the inmates could not say where he was or when he was likely to return.

In spite of the positive announcement made by officers of the Western Union Company, no little doubt of the accomplishment of the union was expressed in Wall Street yesterday. By some who were disposed to doubt the success of the scheme, the great strength exhibited by the telegraph stocks was accepted as slight evidence that at present the union of the companies had been practically accomplished.

The price of Western Union opened yesterday at 102, and with moderate fluctuations advanced to 107. closing at the highest price for the day. After the close of business at the Stock Exchange some small sales were reported to have been made at 108, which was the price at which the stock was quoted last night in the corridors of the Windsor Hotel.

The opening price of American Union stock was

Hotel.
The opening price of American Union stock was 90, and after selling up to 94 it fell back to 89½, but again advanced to 93½ and 933s. Atlantic and Pacific stock advanced from 41 to 45½.

# DISTRIBUTIONS FROM THE STONE ESTATE.

Boston, Jan. 12 .- It has been understood that there would be no more distributions from th gifts have been made by Mrs. Stone: Hampton Instigifts have been made by Mrs. Stone: Hampton Instrute. Fortress Morroe, Va., \$20,000; Olivet College, Olivet, Mich., \$20,000; Ripon College, Ripon, Wis., \$20,000; Illinois College, Jacksonville, Ill., \$20,000; Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio, \$10,000; Beloit College, Beloit, Wis., \$20,000; Robert College, Constantiopie, \$20,000; Howard University, Washington, D. C., \$25,000; Berea College, Berea, Ky., \$19,000; New West Education Commission, \$12,500; Evangelical work in France, \$15,000.

#### WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS.

Boston, Jan. 12 .- The Woman's Board of Missions is holding the closing sessions of its annual meeting at Mount Vernon Caurch to-day. This forenoon. mesting at Mount Vernon Cauren today. This foreign missionary addresses were delivered by Mrs. E. D. Harding, of the Tahratta Mission, and Miss E. C. Parsons, of the Constantinople Home; And a paper on "Prograssive Work" was read by Miss A. B. Child. This afternoon there will be addresses by Mrs. Leonard, of the Western Turkey Mission; Mrs. Gullick, of the mission to Spain; Mrs. E. H. Barnes, Mrs. L. E. Caswell and Mrs. L. V. Snow, of the Micronesian Mission.

#### KILLING HIS WIFE AND HIMSELF.

PETERBORO, N. H., Jan. 12 .- A shocking urder was committed here at 6 o'clock this evening. 'Hatch" Walsh, age forty, and his wife, who lived in the rear of the Baptist Church, were found lying in the snow. The woman was dead. Her throat was cut. Walsh's throat was also cut from ear to ear, and he was almost dead. A razor was found in the house. It is supposed that after cutting his wife's throat he cut his own. Walsh lived a few moments after he was found. No cause for the need is known.

### FRAUDS IN ASSESSMENTS.

CHICAGO, Jan. 12 .- The County Clerk today discovered that a number of changes had been sys tematically made in the town assessments after they had been passed upon and approved by the county Board. Assessments against well-known and respectate firms had been reduced as much as one-half in cases where the valuation was over \$10,000. In one case a valuation of \$18.000 was reduced to \$10,000, and in a few instances valuations for \$5,000 and \$6,000 were entirely stricken out.

### A SOUTHERN OUTRAGE. .

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 12 .- A special from Gallatin, Tenn., to The Courier-Journal says: "Captain Skeene, a well-known and respectable citizen, who lives about eight miles north, while in his yard on Sunday wounded. Seventeen backshots were taken from his body. His death is expected at any moment. It is thought the deed was perpretrated by some 'moon-shiters,' whom it is said Captain Skeene had reported to the authorities." night was fired upon by unknown persons and fatally

# THE LAND LEAGUE CONVENTION.

BUFFALO, Jan. 12 .- The first convention of the National Land and Industrial League met at St. James Hall to-day. The stage was decorated with emerald banners and the Stars and Stripes. The Convention was called to order by the Rev. Laurence Walsh, of Waterford, Conn., treasurer of the organiza-

# COLORED COUNCILMEN CHOSEN.

DANVILLE, Va., Jan. 12 .- In the municipal election here last May three colored men were elected members of the City Council. The other members are all white and among them some of the wealthiest, most respectable and influential citizens. To-day John Aden, one of the colored members, died, and this evening the Council held a special meeting and adopted appropriate

# FRAGMENIS OF WESTERN NEWS.

THE LARGEST COTTON CARRIER. CINCINNATI, Jan. 12.-The Southern Railroad in angement amounces that it has carried during the present season 10,000 bales of cotton more than any other road running northward out of the cotton belt.

A DENIAL BY AN ARTIST. CINCINNATI, Jan. 12 .- A dispatch from the East this morning states that a report is current that Mr. Matt Morgan, the artist, has been engaged to flux trate one of the New-York police newspapers at a large salary. Mr. Morgan emphatically denies the report. DYING AT HIS DAUGHTER'S GRAVE.

SALEM, Ind., Jan. 12.—A married daughter of Paris Dalton, an aged citizen of Washington County, died on Thursday. A large procession of friends, including the father, followed the remains to the grave on saturday. Before lowering the body into the grave the undertaxer removed the collin led and asked the friends to take their last look at the dead. Mr. Dalton cast an agonized look moon the face of his daughter and fell dead beside the collin.

ATTEMPTING TO ABATE AN EVIL. members of the city called on the Mayor to-day to determine where the responsibility for the existence of the lewd variety shows in Chicinnati rests. The Mayor claimed that the responsibility rested not with blue, but with the council in not providing a proper ordinance under which they might be suppressed. The matter will be pushed vigorously by the uninsters and those in sympathy with them. CINCINNATI, Jan. 12 .- A delegation from the

# TELLEGRAPHIC NOTES. .

SAFE ROBBERY IN TEXAS.

LIBERTY, Texas, Lan. 12.—The same of J. D. Kiner & Brother was blown open last night and robbed of about

FI.200.

KILLED IN A MINE.

POTTSVILLE, Penn., Jan. 12.—James Curran, a miner, was ki led and John McKeever was budly injured by a tail of top coal at themson Cothiery. Mohamey City, to day.

PROVIDENCE, BOARD OF TRADE.

PROVIDENCE, R. 1, Jan. 12.—Coloned Charles Warren Lippitt was to-day elected President of the Providence Books of Trade.

GATHERING ICE IN PEACE.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 12.—The strike of the ice-gatherers at Havre de Grace has ended, and the work will go on to morrow. The settlement is satisfactory alike to employers and employed.

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and employed.

CHARGED WITH LIBELLING A DETECTIVE.

PROVID NCE. R. I., Jun. 12.—Alonzo Spear, of
Boston, proprietor of The Sunday Dispatch, and Francis Corbett, editor, were arrested to-day on a charge of criminal idel
in Detective James O'-wan.

on Detective James O'swan.

BODIES RECOVERED.

MILLTOWN, N. J., Jan, 12.—Two young men, brothers, Frankin and Oliver sanders, were drowned while skating on Bass Creek Saturday evening. The bodies of both were found near the milliam to-day. were tound near the inflidam to-day,

NEGLIGENCE A CRIME.

CHESTER, Penn., Jan. 12.—James D. Knight, the
man whose neglect to close the switch caused the a-cident at
Samokin Station on Thursday last, was to-day held in \$2,000
to answer the charge of manslaughter. He furnished the bail
and was released.

and was released.

STRUCK BY ICE IN THE DELAWARE.

PHILADELPIIA, Jan, 12.—The back Magnum,
Hoyer, from London, which arrived to-day, reports that while
coming up the river had bowport stove by ice, and in sound
ing the pumps found four feet of water in her hold. She was
run well on the mudin the dock, which stopped the leak.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Jan. 12.—A National Commercial Textellers' Association was organized here to-day by del-

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

SUBJECTS BEFORE CONGRESS. WHAT IS DUR TO THE EX-PRESIDENT FROM RIS COUNTRYMEN-A GREAT VARIETY OF OPEN-IONS ABOUT NATIONAL FINANCIERING-DEMO-CRATIC DODGING.

Senator Blaine, in conversation with

TRIBUNE correspondent at Washington yesterday, spoke emphatically in favor of placing General Grant on the retired list of the Army with the rank which was created for him : it is, he said, a debt which the Nation owes him, and he hoped the Democrats in Cons gress would, in time, take the same view of the matter." The attention of the House of Representatives was occupied yesterday with the Refunding bill: Mr. Wood's amendment was adopted after a long debate. Democrat members of the House who have exhibited much dread of the Postmaster-General's report on the alleged violations of the franking law, have succeeded in referring the matter to a special committee. Instances of the extent to which the law was violated are given.

### THE NATION'S DEBT TO GRANT.

SENATOR BLAINE STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF PLACING HIM ON THE RETIRED LIST OF THE ARMY WITH HIS OLD RANK-OBJECTIONS TO THE TITLE OF

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12 .- A correspondent of THE TRIBUNE walked on the street to-day with Senator Blaine and had a brief talk with him, winch, on his own responsibility and without asking the senator's leave, he ventures to publish

It was substantially as follows: "What." asked the correspondent, "would be the fate this session of the bill proposing to place

General Grant on the retired list of the Army ?" Mr. Blaine replied that he could not pretend to say; that the Democrats were in the majority in both branches of Congress, and that it was rather presumptuous for a Republican to declare what would be the Democratic policy on any given measure. "A man in the minority," he said, " has no right to

ssume or assure the passage of any bill." "But what will the Republican Senators and Representatives do I" was asked.

"I presume," answered the Senator, "that every one of them will gladly vote for a measure to place General Grant on the retired Army list with the rank of General."

"Do you mean that they would prefer to vote for a bill specifically affecting General Grant rather than some provision touching all ex-Presidents !" "I do not see any reason at present," replied Mr.

Blaine, "for a general provision for ex-Presidents. As a rule I am opposed to say entering wedge for a large pension list for civilian officers. Our country will probably have a large enough burden with the military and naval pensions, which in honor and justice we are bound to pay, without adding thereto a large civil list; and every movement in that direc-

tion should be jealously watched and gnarded." "How, then, do you make a distinction in favor of General Grant ?"

"Simply on the ground of fair play. The people of the United States took General Grant from a good life position and made him President. There is in many cases a good deal of nonsense talked about ' the office seeking the man;" but in General Grant's case, at least for his first term, the office did seek the man. The people asked him to give up his life position and serve them in an office of short tenure; and I think now, on the ground of fair-play and square dealing, the people owe it to General Grant to leave him in as good a position as they found him when they demanded that he should serve them as

President." "Well, on this ground," said the correspondent, I don't see but the Democrats ought to vote for it

as well as the Republicans I' "Yes, and I hope in the end they will do so," re-plied Mr. Blaine. "Though I repeat that I cannot assume to say they will. They are of course feeling a little sore and cross just now over their defeat, for which they consider General Grant in part responsible, but that feeling will wear off in time, and the justice and propriety of bearing General Grant's name on the United States Army roll, it is hoped, will be so apparent that every one will be disposed to vote for it. It would require explanation in history if Congress should refuse to the name of the General of all the armies that con-

quered the Rebellion." But you were reported, a short time since, as be ing opposed to President Hayes's recommendation to confer the rank of Captain-General on Grant !" "Yes, and I am opposed to it now. Captain-teneral is an infelicitous title, which the President probably recommended without giving it sufficient consideration. Captain-General, as used on the American Continent, is a Spanish title, intimately associated in the public mind with the oppression of Cuba and with the cruelties and atrocities of the

Grant, and is the one to which he should be restored. with full pay and emoluments." Which title does General Grant prefer ?"

slave trade. The rank of General was created for

"I have no means of knowing," replied Mr, Blaine, "except as shown by the bills introduced by his personal friends. I think there has been no bill introduced for the rank of Captain-General, and I should be much surprised to find that he desired the title. Indeed, I should not believe it unless it

was authoritatively announced."

"From the tenor of your rémarks I infer that you consider this retarement due to General Grant, regardless of what his pectuairy condition may be?

"Of course I do." said the Senator. "Whether General Grant be worth a million, or only a thou sand, has nothing to do with it. If the Nation owe anything to General Grant it has no right to imquire into his circumstances as a preliminary to payment. I think it in very bad taste to be making an inventour of General Grant's property, or to be discussing tory of General Grant's property, or to be discussing in any way his financial condition. That belongs to him as a private gentleman, and is not matter for public discussion."

DEMOCRATIC PRETENCE AND PRACTICE. THE DEBATE ON THE REFUNDING BILL IN THE HOUSE-PASSAGE OF THE THREE PER CENT

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TELBUNE. WASHINGTON, Jan 12.-The House of Represents tives spent the entire day on the Refunding bill, and advanced so far as to decide that the new bonds and Treasury notes, if any of the latter shall be issued, shall bear interest at the rate of three per cent. An honr was allowed for debate on this proposition, and excellent speeches were made against it by Mr. Frye, Mr. Einstein, Mr. Haskell, and Mr. Aldrich of Rhode Island. Mr. Randall went upon the floor and assumed the leadership of the Democrats, somewhat to the disgust of Mr. Fernando Wood, who, as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, has charge

of the bill. As usual, he indulged in partisan appeal

which elicited applause from the Democrats. After it had been decided that the new securities should not bear more than 3 per cent interest, an amendment offered by Mr. Samford, of Alabama, was adopted. This amendment requires that, before any of the bonds or notes authorized are issued, the Sec retary of the Treasury shall pay out in the purchase of five and six per cent bonds all the standard silves dollars and all the gold coin now in the Treasury except \$50,000,000. This amendment was offered by a Democrat and was adopted by Democratio votes only a few moments after Mr. Raudall's high encomiums upon the honesty of the Democratic party had been delivered. Immediately afterward another Democrat, Mr. McMillan, of Tennessee, offered an amendment providing that the new Londs shall be subject to taxation the same as other kinds of prop-This amendment received 57 Democratic erty. votes. Mr. Raudall went personally to a number of

Democrats and persuaded them to vote spainst it.

An amendment, offered by Mr. Randall, which provides that all the new securities shall be in the